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(57) Abstract: Control circuits for a riding lawn mower. The control circuits provide an override condition for selectively allowing the cutting blades of the lawn mower to operate when the vehicle is traveling in reverse. The circuits incorporate an ignition switch (8), an override switch (80), a vehicle reverse switch (40), and an operator presence switch (12). In one aspect of the invention, the control circuits disable the engine when the vehicle is placed in reverse with the PTO engaged and without the override condition having been established. In another aspect of the invention, an electric PTO clutch (60) is disabled when the vehicle is placed in reverse with the PTO engaged and without the override condition having been established. The override condition is terminated when the vehicle is turned off, or when the operator deactivates the manual override switch.



— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

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